

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: STANDARDS COMMITTEE

DATE: MONDAY, 8 APRIL 2013

REPORT BY: DEMOCRACY & GOVERNANCE MANAGER

SUBJECT: DATABASE OF PREVIOUS APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATIONS

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To consider the draft database of decisions on previous applications for dispensations.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 The committee has previously asked officers to investigate the feasibility of preparing a database of previous dispensations. The availability of such a database should assist the committee in making decisions consistent with those made in the past. At its meeting on the 3 December 2012 the committee were advised that progress had been made with the proposed database but it had not yet been confirmed as to when it will be operational.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The Council's Modern.gov software makes available on the Council's internal Infonet and on its website reports to Cabinet, Council and Committee meetings, the minutes of those meetings and various other information relating to the Council's Democratic Services.

3.02 The software enables a database to be compiled from the minutes of previous Standards Committee meetings recording decisions on applications for dispensation. A draft of such a database is attached as appendix 1.

3.03 It is proposed to make the database available on the Council's website so that it can be accessed by all members of the committee and in the interest of transparency by the public. It is also proposed that the same part of the website would include the Members' Code of Conduct and the list of grounds on which an applicant can apply for dispensation so that the database is easier to understand. The database will include all dispensations that have been considered by the committee.

3.04 Before more time is spent on completing the database the views of the committee are requested on the draft attached as appendix 1.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 For the committee to consider the draft database of previous applications for dispensation considered by the committee (appendix 1).

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 None as a result of this report.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 None as a result of this report.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None as a result of this report.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 None as a result of this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None as a result of this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None as a result of this report.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None as a result of this report.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix 1 - Draft database

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None

Contact Officer: Peter Evans
Telephone: 01352 702304
Email: peter.j.evans@flintshire.gov.uk